

Our Docket No: 80398.P118C

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Mercs, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: Multi-Mode LED Indicators
For Recording Devices

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

This is a Continuation of:

Application No.: 08/ 999,642

Filed: September 24, 1997

Examiner: Harvey, M.

Art Unit: 2644

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Continuation Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned case, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendment and to consider the following remark.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL899343425 US
I hereby certify that I am causing this paper or fee to be deposited
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20231.

September 26, 2001

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Debbie Pelquin

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Debbie Pelquin
Signature

9-26-01
Date

Docket No: 80398P118C
Express Mail No.: EL899343425US

Amendments To Specification--Clean Version

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On Page 1, please add the following paragraph after the title:

This is a continuation of Application No. 08/999,642, filed September 24, 1997.

IN THE CLAIMS

Presented below are the amended claims in a clean-unmarked format.

1. A multi-track recording system, comprising a plurality of indicator lights, each indicator light in said plurality of indicator lights corresponding to a track of the multi-track recording system, each indicator light configured to output a first color and a second color wherein the first color is associated with the output of an input of the corresponding track and the second color is associated with the output of recorded material.
2. The multi-track recording system of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of indicator lights is capable of outputting a third color, said third color indicating that a corresponding track is slipped from other tracks in the multi-track recording system.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein an alternating blinking sequence between two colors indicates the monitoring of the input of the multi-track recording system.
4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the alternating blinking sequence alternates between the first color and the second color.

6. A method of indicating a track mode of each track in a multi-track recording system comprising the steps of:
- determining the mode of each of the tracks in the multi-track recording system; and
 - providing at least one indicator light; and
 - adjusting a color output of the indicator light to correspond to a mode of a corresponding track.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein the mode of each track includes whether an output signal to a plurality of level meters is derived from a recorded signal on a track of a plurality of recorded tracks or whether the output signal is derived from an external source.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the output of the indicator light varies in color according to the mode of the corresponding track.
9. The method of claim 7 wherein the indicator light alternates color in a blinking sequence according to the mode of the corresponding track.
10. The method of claim 6 wherein the mode determining the color output of the indicator light includes information from a transport mode and a non-transport mode.
11. A multi-track recording system comprising:
- a plurality of level meters, each of the plurality of level meters corresponding to a track in the multi-track recording system; and

a plurality of indicator lights, each indicator light in the plurality of indicator lights corresponding to one level meter of the plurality of level meters and configured to indicate a status representing a current state of the corresponding track of the one level meter.

12. The multi-track recording system of claim 11 wherein each of said indicator lights further comprising:

a first light emitting diode to output a first color;

a second light emitting diode to output a second color; and

a transparent housing enclosing the first light emitting diode and the second light emitting diode.

18. (Amended) A method of indicating a track status of a track in a multi-track recording system comprising the steps of:

determining a transport movement of the track in the multi-track recording system;

indicating the transport movement of the track by illuminating a first light emitting diode disposed in a housing;

determining a mode of the track in the multi-track recording system; and

indicating the mode of the track by illuminating a second light emitting diode disposed in the housing in close proximity to the first light emitting diode such that when both the first light emitting diode and the second light emitting diode are activated, a third color is generated.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the first light emitting diode and the second light emitting diode alternate between blinking and solid light so as to generate a multiplicity of track status combinations.
20. (New) A system comprising:
a plurality of recording tracks; and
a display comprising a plurality of single indicator lights, each single indicator light conveying a monitored status of one corresponding track of the plurality of recording tracks, wherein the monitored status indicates both a transport movement and a mode of the track.
21. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the monitored status appears as a solid or repeating pattern of a first color, a second color or a third color produced by a chromatic light combination of the first color and the second color.
22. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the transport movement of the track indicates one of a group comprising Play, Reverse Play, Fast Forward, Rewind, Stop, and Record.
23. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the mode of the track indicates one of a group comprising Ready Auto Input On, Ready Auto Input Off, Monitor, Slip Channels, Locate Edits, Input/Output Gain Adjustment.
24. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the first color, the second color and the third color are generated by activating one, the other, or a combination of two LEDs positioned in close proximity to one another.

Remark

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 18 and 19 have been amended. Claims 5, and 13-17 have been cancelled. Claims 20-24 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-4, 6-12, and 18-24 are now presented for examination.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

The Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

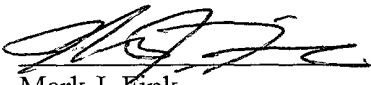
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: September 26, 2001


Mark J. Fink
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On Page 1, please add the following paragraph after the title:

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IN THE CLAIMS:

5. (Cancel without prejudice)
13. (Cancel without prejudice)
14. (Cancel without prejudice)
15. (Cancel without prejudice)
16. (Cancel without prejudice)
17. (Cancel without prejudice)
18. (Amended) A method of indicating a track status of a track in a multi-track recording system comprising the steps of:

determining a transport movement of the track in the multi-track recording system;

indicating the transport movement of the track by illuminating a first light emitting diode disposed in a housing;

determining a mode of the track in the multi-track recording system; and

indicating the mode of the track by illuminating a second light emitting diode disposed in the housing in close proximity to the first light emitting diode such that when both the first light emitting diode and the second light emitting diode are activated, a third color is generated.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the first light emitting diode and the second light emitting diode alternate between blinking and solid light so as to [represent] generate a multiplicity of track status combinations.

20. - 24. (New)